

among themselves and question the wisdom of their paying out a part of their earnings when they had a heavy church debt of their own. For several years they worked as a Ladies' Aid Society, concentrating their efforts to pay that debt; but, strange as it may seem to some, they couldn't get it paid off any faster, they couldn't get as much money in their treasury as before; in short, their work didn't prosper when they were working chiefly for their home church, for self, as when they had been working to meet a need still greater than their own. They reasoned again and wisely determined to adopt the S. S. C. E. constitution, as a society to take Christ for their example and learn the lesson of his unselfishness, who when tired and seeking rest, would yet give his time and service to those who were in need. The general work needs the twenty cents far more than your own church; will you be Christ-like? Will you who think it most profitable in having simply the home fund, will you learn a lesson from the experience of this society? It is on this same principle that Troy church sees a ray of hope for the opening of their work again. 'Tis painful to speak of the condition of the church at Troy for it is indeed a case where the wolf has been scattering the sheep. The church house is there, but they have had no services of any kind for a year. They greatly appreciate what Brother Bowman, of Glenford has done to make their church property secure, and now they are hoping for results from Brother Kimmel's visit to secure for them a pastor.

The services on Sunday morning, 30, were attended only by a few, but they were mostly the staunch members, who soon began to see the best way to start their work was not only to help themselves, but even to take a part in the general work of the church thru the S. S. C. E. Before the evening services there were twenty who freely gave their names as being ready to band together and open up work under the Sisters' Christian Endeavor. They expect to have their devotional meetings once or twice a month, when they shall again enjoy the Christian fellowship of one another. Little was said about the work meetings, but before leaving I found they had been planning to begin actual sewing, to take up the work where they had left off when organized under the name of "Willing Workers," similar to the Ladies' Aid Society.

Will the united S. S. C. E. offer special prayer for the Troy society that they may be encouraged, and not grow weary of the work. I enjoyed the hospitality of Sister Landrey whose kindness did not cease until she saw me comfortably at home in Pleasant Hill.

The traveling showmen had reached the town before we had, their large tent pitched for the night's performance. From this or some other reason, there was only a small but very select crowd at the church. Brother White couldn't be present on account of sickness in the family. His place was taken

by Brother Summers of North Manchester who is visiting this his former charge.

They have never had a society here and we are sorry to report failure in effecting an organization.

VIANNA DETWILER.

Pleasant Hill, O.

Dunlaps, Ind.

As our Editor and Sister Detwiler have been earnestly urging our societies to tell each other what they are doing, I will try and tell you about our work. I have just finished reading Sister Gnagey's article, "How Should the S. S. C. E. Use Its Money?" Every sister in the brotherhood ought to read it, it is inspiring. How true! She says, "Scattered forces means defeat, united effort means victory." She urges every society to take out an endowment pledge for Ashland college. I trust every society will do so at once, that has not taken one. Our Dunlaps Society took one about six months ago. How I wish we could take another one. We are paying one dollar per month to the General Mission Board, also helping to support the minister. We have done more and better work the last year than ever before. We have more work than we can do. We do whatever our hands find to do that is not questionable. In March our society had the pleasure of entertaining our State president, Sister Frame of South Bend. At one of our work meetings, she helped us very much with words of encouragement. We elected our delegates to National and State Conference at our last business meeting. One feature of our meetings is our devotional service which we hold in the afternoon at three o'clock. We all enjoy the service so very much. While we are working for the financial part we should not forget the spiritual part, and our aim should always be to save souls. I have not told you what our work consists of as I have taken up so much space.

MRS. A. R. BEMENDERFER, Pres.

Our Young People

THE SPREAD OF THE KINGDOM

Matt. 13: 33; Dan. 2: 31-35, 45.

Topic for August 20. (A Missionary Meeting.)

Every great teacher has had some favorite expression. Bacon said, "Know thyself." Matthew Arnold talked of "sweetness and light." Mohammed taught, "There is no God but Allah and Mohammed is his prophet." Christ came preaching "The kingdom of God." By parable and illustration he made plain its nature and destiny. By his teaching he made known its principles and by his own life he exemplified the characteristics of the typical member of it. He founded the church as the organization to perpetuate its principles and to extend it. He gave ordinances that its main teachings might be preserved unchanged and he has promised to be with his followers all the days even unto the end of the age. By and by when the gospel has been preached as a witness to every nation, when in the fulness of time all conditions have been fulfilled then the Son shall deliver up his kingdom which is now growing here to the Father and there shall be gathered out of it all things which cause stumbling (Matt. 13: 41) and God shall be all in all. The subject is so large that it can barely be touched in one lesson. To study it for

a whole year would prove a great blessing. A few references have been given below touching the main points. Time will permit only the emphasis of the main thought that the kingdom is to grow and fill the earth and God has called us as members of the church to do the work of preaching the kingdom to all nations. It is just as much our duty to be helping in this as it is to be baptized and join church. If the young people's society has not been doing its utmost for missions, now is the time to wake up to this responsibility. Announce a week ahead that a missionary offering will be taken. Let the leader work up a large attendance and see that the lesson is understood by all.

THE KINGDOM

- 1 Prophesied, Dan. 2: 44
- 2 Preparation for, Matt. 11: 33; Gal. 4: 4.
- 3 The kingdom preached, Matt. 1: 14, 15.
- 4 A spiritual kingdom, Rom. 14: 17.
- 5 Not of this world, John 18: 36.
- 6 In the heart, Luke 17: 20, 21.
- 7 The king—the light, John 8: 12.
- 8 The example of self-surrender, John 6: 30.
- 9 The membership—born again, John 3: 3, 5.
- 10 To be like the king, I Pet. 2: 21; Eph. 4: 13; I John 3: 2.
- 11 Principles—the law of love, John 13: 25.
- 12 The Fatherhood of God, John 8: 44.
- 13 The brotherhood of man, Matt. 23: 8.
- 14 The organization of the kingdom, Matt. 16: 18.
- 15 The future of the kingdom, Matt. 13: 31-33.
- 16 The return of our Lord, Acts 1: 11.
- 17 The kingdom of the Father, I Cor. 15: 24.
- 18 What to do "till he come," Luke 19: 3; I Thess. 4: 13-18.
- 19 "Seek ye first the kingdom," Matt. 6: 33.
- 20 Our great obligation, Matt. 28: 19, 20.

TOPICS FOR TALKS

- 1 What do we mean by "the kingdom?"
- 2 How is the kingdom like leaven? Matt. 13: 33.
- 3 How is the kingdom like a hid treasure? Matt. 13: 44.
- 4 How is the kingdom like a net cast into the sea? Matt. 13: 47-50.
- 5 How are we to be like children in the kingdom? Matt. 18: 1-3.
- 6 What has the church to do with the kingdom?
- 7 How may we help the kingdom?
- 8 What will be the result if we do not help extend the kingdom? Matt. 25: 30.
- 9 What has our society done for missionary work during the past year?
- 10 What will our society do for missionary work during the coming year? C. F. YODER.

C. E. Convention Notes

(Notes gleaned from president Francis E. Clark's annual address given at the Detroit C. E. convention in tent "Endeavor" Thursday morning, July 6, 1899.)

Dr. Clark told in brief what particular event marked each year of the history of the organization.

The first convention was held at Portland, Oregon, in 1882, just one year after its organization. In 1884 the first Junior society was organized. In 1888 the first society was formed in Great Britain. In 1892 Christian Endeavor was world wide. Hence you see its rapid growth and popularity. In 1894 there was a marked revival of missionary zeal. The year 1896 was marked by the "Tenth Legion," and 1897 by the "Quiet Hour" movement which gives to our churches a deeper spiritual life. It has raised the spiritual tone of the local church.

Each year finds some new duty undertaken. This last year there has been much